

**INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 2153-MC-FFS**

**DATE:** August 4, 2020

**TO:** Iowa Medicaid Pharmacy Providers

**APPLIES TO:** Managed Care (MC), Fee-for-Service (FFS)

**FROM:** Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

**RE:** New Provider Type for Pharmacists – Clarification

**EFFECTIVE:** Immediately

**\*\*This letter replaces Informational Letter No. 2105-MC-FFS  
dated February 20, 2020. \*\***

The IME has added a new provider type for pharmacists, specifically an authorized pharmacist as defined in Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) 657 – [Chapter 39](#)<sup>1</sup>. The addition of provider type 82 allows pharmacists to enroll as a Medicaid provider. Enrollment will permit a pharmacist, pursuant to [Statewide Protocols](#)<sup>2</sup>, to order and dispense naloxone and nicotine replacement therapy tobacco cessation products, as well as to order and administer vaccines to Medicaid members. The pharmacist must meet all required training, continuing education and certification requirements pursuant to these protocols as defined in IAC 657 – [Chapter 39](#)<sup>3</sup>.

As part of the administrative rule changes allowing pharmacist enrollment with Medicaid, all vaccine billing and reimbursement will be required to process through the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) or medical claims billing. This will ensure billing consistency among providers as well as a coordinated Medicaid immunization record for the member. An Informational Letter detailing pharmacist administered vaccine billing will be forthcoming and provide additional details.

In anticipation of the administrative rule changes, providers are encouraged to begin the enrollment process before **June 1, 2021**. Services provided by pharmacists enrolling as provider type 82 will not be available for payment until June 1, 2021.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.legis.iowa.gov/law/administrativeRules/rules?agency=657&chapter=39&pubDate=09-11-2019](http://www.legis.iowa.gov/law/administrativeRules/rules?agency=657&chapter=39&pubDate=09-11-2019)

<sup>2</sup> <https://pharmacy.iowa.gov/misc/statewide-protocols>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/law/administrativeRules/rules?agency=657&chapter=39&pubDate=09-11-2019>

Payment for services under the [Opioid antagonist dispensing by pharmacist— standing order](#)<sup>4</sup> will continue to be payable ongoing. Vaccines under [Vaccine administration by pharmacists—physician-approved protocol](#)<sup>5</sup> will continue to be payable through June 30, 2021.

**Enrollment:** Enrollment is through a paper application only. There is no fee to enroll as a Medicaid provider with the IME. To enroll under this new provider type, a pharmacist must:

- Complete the [Iowa Medicaid Universal Provider Enrollment Application Form 470-0254](#)<sup>6</sup> (Section B).
  - In box 16, enter type code 82.
  - In box 24 – leave blank, CLIA is not required.
  - In boxes 31a-c, enter the pharmacy National Provider Identifier (NPI), Taxonomy Code, and Location Zip Code. **If employed at more than one location (pharmacy), please submit a completed application for each location.**
- If enrolling with the Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) (Section C):
  - For Amerigroup - Utilize Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare (CAQH) and if not an option, then Section C should be completed excluding numbers 45-49.
  - For Iowa Total Care - Section C should only be completed if the pharmacist wants to be listed in the provider directory, then complete only numbers 41-44.
- Include a copy of your Iowa Board of Pharmacy Pharmacist license.
- Include a copy of the certificate from an organized course of study in a college or school of pharmacy or an ACPE-accredited continuing education program on vaccine administration, if applicable.
- Include a copy of current basic cardiac life support training certificate.
- Include a copy of all applicable ACPE-approved continuing education certificates relative to vaccines, naloxone and nicotine replacement tobacco cessation products.

### Vaccine Protocol Ongoing Requirements

- The Medicaid enrolled pharmacist is responsible for meeting all requirements of an authorized pharmacist pursuant to IAC 657 – [Chapter 39.11](#)<sup>7</sup>.
- Failure to maintain appropriate requirements while continuing to provide services may result in sanctions consistent with IAC 441 – [Chapter 79.2](#)<sup>8</sup>.

### Protocol Tracking

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iac/rule/06-20-2018.657.39.7.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iac/rule/07>

<sup>6</sup> <https://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/470-0254.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iac/rule/07-31-2019.657.39.11.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iac/rule/10-29-2014.441.79.2.pdf>

- The IME will be tracking protocol participation by the enrolled pharmacist based on information provided on the enrollment application and any subsequent required updates and re-enrollment.

### **IME Notification of Changes**

- The Medicaid enrolled pharmacist is responsible for notifying the IME Provider Enrollment Unit of any changes to participation in protocol practice(s) within thirty-five (35) days of any change. Submit any changes, including your NPI, on the communication to:  
IME Provider Services,  
Attn: Provider Enrollment,  
P.O. Box 36450,  
Des Moines, IA 50315

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## **Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Enrollment**

### **Pharmacist Affiliation**

- 1. Can a pharmacist enroll if not affiliated with a pharmacy?** Yes. If a pharmacist enroll under their individual Social Security Number, they will be required to submit additional enrollment forms including:
  - 470-0254 Section A,
  - Provider Agreement Form 470-2965,
  - Electronic Funds form 470-4202, IRS form W-9.
- 2. How does a pharmacist affiliated with a medical office enroll?** The pharmacist would enroll and link themselves to the physician group.

### **Managed Care**

- 1. Will the MCOs have an additional provider enrollment process?** Yes. The pharmacist will need to be credentialed with each MCO. Questions related to MCO enrollment should be directed to the appropriate MCO.
  - The Iowa Total Care pharmacist enrollment contact varies depending on where the pharmacist is geographically located. There is a map with contact information located on the website at <https://www.iowatotalcare.com/providers/resources.html>.
  - Amerigroup pharmacist enrollment questions can be directed to [AmerigroupPSO@amerigroup.com](mailto:AmerigroupPSO@amerigroup.com).
- 2. Does the IME provide guidance to the MCOs on their enrollment process?** No. Each MCO has their own credentialing requirements.

## **Continuing Education (CE)**

- 1. Will pharmacists need to submit new education verification with each renewal period? Yes.**
- 2. What if my CPR certification expires between now and June 1, 2021? Do I just provide a current certificate, then send in an updated certificate when possible? Who do I direct that renewal to?** At the time of enrollment, submit the current certificate. When renewed, submit a copy of the updated certificate with your NPI written on it to:  
IME Provider Services,  
Attn: Provider Enrollment  
P.O. Box 36450  
Des Moines, IA 50315
- 3. How far back do you need CE?** Provide the CE indicated in 29 a-c.
  - For a. that means the initial qualification (course) as noted under “i”. Then current certificates under “ii-iii” as required under the Board of Pharmacy’s rules within the license renewal period.
  - For b. and c. that means the certificate for the CE in each area obtained during the current or past licensing period as required under the Board of Pharmacy’s rules.

## **General**

- 1. Does the IME work with credential verification services for providers? No.**
- 2. Is there an online application?** No there is not an online application. Enrollment is through a paper application only.
- 3. Is there a fee to enroll as a Medicaid provider? No.**
- 4. Is it possible for an employer (e.g., office manager) to submit on behalf of employee pharmacists (e.g., clinics, hospitals, chains)? If so, what will the process be for this?** Yes. The process is the same.

- 5. If a pharmacist is already enrolled with Iowa Medicaid to provide Pharmaceutical Case Management (PCM) and has a provider number through this program, should this provider number be utilized in their provider enrollment application? Should they omit certain sections of the application since they are already part of the Medicaid system?** No, Pharmacists "enrolled" as PCM pharmacist must complete this regular enrollment to be eligible for providing these services.

The IME appreciates your continued partnership as we work to improve the claim processing service quality and accuracy. If you have questions, please contact the IME Provider Enrollment Unit at 1-800-338-7909 or email at [IMEProviderEnrollment@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:IMEProviderEnrollment@dhs.state.ia.us).